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Governor

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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

September 15, 2008

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT
7099 3400 0016 8894 6321

Dan Meadors
Canyon Fuel Company LLC
HC 35 Box 380
Helper, Utah 84526

Subject: Proposed Assessment for State Violation No. N10028, Canyon Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, C/007/0005 Task 3038, Outgoing File

Dear: Mr. Meadors

The undersigned has been appointed by the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining as the Assessment Officer for assessing penalties under R645-401.

Enclosed is the proposed civil penalty assessment for the above referenced violation. The violation was issued by Division Inspector, Karl Housekeeper, on August 13, 2008. Rule R645-401-600 et. seq. has been utilized to formulate the proposed penalty. By these rules, any written information which was submitted by you or your agent within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Notice of Violation has been considered in determining the facts surrounding the violation and the amount of penalty.

Under R645-401-700, there are two informal appeal options available to you:

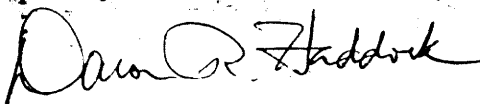
1. If you wish to informally appeal the fact of this violation, you should file a written request for an Informal Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. This conference will be conducted by the Division Director. This Informal Conference is distinct from the Assessment Conference regarding the proposed penalty.



2. If you wish to review the proposed penalty assessment, you should file a written request for an Assessment Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. If you are also requesting a review of the fact of violation, as noted in paragraph 1, the Assessment Conference will be scheduled immediately following that review.

If a timely request for review is not made, the fact of violation will stand, the proposed penalty(ies) will become final, and the penalty(ies) will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the proposed assessment. Please remit payment to the Division, mail c/o Vickie Southwick.

Sincerely,


for Joseph C. Helfrich
Assessment Officer

Enclosure

cc: OSM Compliance Report
Vickie Southwick, DOGM
Price Field Office

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U.S. Postal Service
CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT
(Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

7099 3400 0016 8894 6321

Postage	LETTER DATE 9/15/2008
Certified Fee	PROPOSED ASSESSMENT N10028
	SKYLINE MINE CANYON FUEL COMPANY
	C/007/005
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
Total Postage & Fees	\$

Here

0042

Recipient's Name (Please Print Clearly) (to be completed by mailer)

DAN MEADORS
HC 35 BOX 380
HELPER, UTAH 84526

PS Form 3800, February 2000

See Reverse for Instructions

**WORKSHEET FOR ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING**

COMPANY / MINE Canyon Fuel Company, Skyline Mine

PERMIT C/007/0005

NOV / CO # 10028

VIOLATION 1 of 1

ASSESSMENT DATE 09/11/2008

ASSESSMENT OFFICER Joe Helfrich

I. HISTORY (Max. 25 pts.)

- A. Are there previous violations, which are not pending or vacated, which fall one (1) year of today's date?

PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS

EFFECTIVE DATE

POINTS

1 point for each past violation, up to one (1) year

5 points for each past violation in a CO, up to one (1) year

No pending notices shall be counted

TOTAL HISTORY POINTS 0

II. SERIOUSNESS (Either A or B)

NOTE: For assignment of points in Parts II and III, the following apply:

1. Based on facts supplied by the inspector, the Assessment Officer will determine within each category where the violation falls.
2. Beginning at the mid-point of the category, the Assessment Officer will adjust the points up or down, utilizing the inspector's and operator's statements as guiding documents.

Is this an EVENT (A) or HINDRANCE (B) violation? Event

A. EVENT VIOLATION (Max 45 pts.)

1. What is the event which the violated standard was designed to prevent?
Water Pollution

2. What is the probability of the occurrence of the event which a violated standard was designed to prevent?

<u>PROBABILITY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>
None	0
Unlikely	1-9
Likely	10-19
Occurred	20

ASSIGN PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE POINTS 20

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*****According to the inspector statement the main sediment pond was being cleaned when a hole was discovered in the discharge pipe. Cleaning efforts resulted in the discharge of sediments, approx 375 gallons into Eccles Creek from the first event. The second discharge that could not be quantified came from a rainstorm. Then a third discharge occurred while inspecting on August 13, 2008.**

3. What is the extent of actual or potential damage? RANGE 0-25

In assigning points, consider the duration and extent of said damage or impact, in terms of area and impact on the public or environment.

ASSIGN DAMAGE POINTS 12

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*****Three separate discharges of suspended solids were noted to Eccles Creek. They were presumably the result of concentrations of coal fines that were in the bottom of the pond since the pond was being cleaned out and probably in excess of effluent limitations as the material did not have the opportunity to settle out before being discharged.**

B. HINDRANCE VIOLATION (Max 25 pts.)

1. Is this a POTENTIAL or ACTUAL hindrance to enforcement?
RANGE 0-25

Assign points based on the extent to which enforcement is actually or potentially hindered by the violation.

ASSIGN HINDRANCE POINTS

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS (A or B) 32

III. NEGLIGENCE (Max 30 pts.)

- A. Was this an inadvertent violation which was unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care? IF SO--NO NEGLIGENCE; or, was this a failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of a violation due to indifference lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care, or the failure to abate any violation due to the same? IF SO--GREATER DEGREE OF FAULT THAN NEGLIGENCE.

No Negligence	0
Negligence	1-15
Greater Degree of Fault	16-30

STATE DEGREE OF NEGLIGENCE _____

ASSIGN NEGLIGENCE POINTS 10

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

****A certain degree of diligence needs to be exercised while maintaining sediment control structures*

IV. GOOD FAITH (Max 20 pts.)

(Either A or B)

(Does not apply to violations requiring no abatement measures)

- A. Did the operator have onsite, the resources necessary to achieve compliance of the violated standard within the permit area?

IF SO--EASY ABATEMENT

Easy Abatement Situation

- Immediate Compliance -11 to -20*
(Immediately following the issuance of the NOV)
- Rapid Compliance -1 to -10
(Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance 0
(Operator complied within the abatement period required)
(Operator complied with condition and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

*Assign in upper of lower half of range depending on abatement occurring the 1st or 2nd half of abatement period.

- B. Did the permittee not have the resources at hand to achieve compliance, or does the situation require the submission of plans prior to physical activity to achieve compliance?

IF SO--DIFFICULT ABATEMENT

Difficult Abatement Situation

- Rapid Compliance -11 to -20*
(Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance -1 to -10*
(Operator complied within the abatement period required)
- Extended Compliance 0
(Permittee took minimal actions for abatement to stay within the limits of the NOV or the violated standard of the plan submitted for abatement was incomplete)
(Permittee complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

EASY OR DIFFICULT ABATEMENT? _____

ASSIGN GOOD FAITH POINTS 10

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

****The permittee exercised diligence in abating the violation.*

V. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

NOTICE OF VIOLATION # N 10028

I.	TOTAL HISTORY POINTS	<u>0</u>
II.	TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS	<u>32</u>
III.	TOTAL NEGLIGENCE POINTS	<u>10</u>
IV.	TOTAL GOOD FAITH POINTS	<u>-10</u>
	TOTAL ASSESSED POINTS	<u>22</u>

TOTAL ASSESSED FINE \$ 484